

WILKINSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
Legislative Session
March 17, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

President Moore called the meeting to order at approximately 7:10 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of the Municipal Building, 605 Ross Ave., Wilkinsburg, PA.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Council members present were: Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, Ms. Trice, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Lewis, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin, President Moore. Also present was Isobel Storch from the Law Offices of Patricia McGrail, Borough Solicitor. Absent were: Ms. Ervin, Mayor John Thompson, and Marla P. Marcinko, Borough Manager. A quorum was established.

Council Meeting tape not audible.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Law noted that Reverend Harvey's wife passed away.
Police Chief Ophelia Coleman reported the commendation of Police Department by Chief Nate Harper of the Pittsburgh Police Department for their assistance in the G-20 event. A plaque was presented to the Department.

Richard Bradford - 502 Holmes St. – Commented on behalf of PSO Program on March 27, 2010.

Shirley Doubt-Elston – 1726 Wright St. – Reported to Council about problems with a property located at 1719 Wright St. The windows have been shot out, the house is falling down, there is garbage in the garage and it is in deplorable condition. The owner deceased at least ten (10) years. Ms. Doubt-Elston requested that the Code Enforcement Department look into this.

Ms. Doubt-Elston reported a problem at a property located at 1800 Wright St. The Code Enforcement Department had been there over a month ago but there is still a problem. Ms. Doubt-Elston further reported her house t 1726 Wright Street has damage due to storm . There is Borough owned property behind her house and branches from the trees on that property are leaning on her back fence. As this is Borough property, the Borough needs to handle the problem.

Kate Luxemburg – 432 Rebecca Ave. – Traffic on Penn Ave. is intense. Difficulty in pedestrian's being able to cross. Traffic light at Penn and Coal needs to be reinstated.

**Borough of Wilkinsburg
Council Legislative Meeting
March 17, 2010**

Linda Law -908 Wood St. – Informed Council AmeriCorps is sponsoring a weatherization program. For information you can contact her by April, 10, 2010 at 412 628-8686.

John Ward – 1221 Swissvale Ave. – Complimenting Borough and maintenance Department for storm management. He also noted a concern about the parking for buses on Swissvale and Hill Street. From 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., there is a steady flow of traffic up the hill and it averages 2-3 accidents a week. Suggest making it one way up the hill.

Greg Nevels – 1141 South Ave. – Works at the Family Links residential facility at 1141 South Ave. Parking on that street requires residential parking permits and he was told his employees cannot get the permits since they are a business. As a result, he and his employees are being ticketed every week. He pays those tickets but cannot continue to do so. His phone number is 412 924-0180. Councilwoman Evans noted that she has constituents who have also raised this issue, as they are home health care workers and are ticketed when parked in front of the homes where they work. President Moore wants this matter looked into by the Borough.

Brenda West-Evans – 605 North Ave. – Reported a problem at 600 North Avenue. This is vacant property, the owner is deceased and the property is being vandalized. She saw individuals removing a chandelier and reported the theft to the police. They took the information but have not provided her with a result of any investigation. The door to the house was left open by the thieves, curtains are removed from front windows, and it is an obvious target for more theft. She stated she understood that the property is in foreclosure. Solicitor Storch advised her that, if there is a mortgage, then the bank has the responsibility for the maintenance of the property. She indicated she would contact the bank. Chief Coleman commented that the police are working the case.

Brenda Stewart – 603 North Ave. – Same complaint as Ms. West-Evans.

Richard Bradford questioned if the traffic lights on Penn Ave. can be synchronized. As President Moore indicated that, as PennDot is responsible for the traffic lights, the borough will refer the suggestion to their Engineer.

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

Ordinance No. 2838 Amending Police Pension Plan relating to killed in service benefit.

Moved: Mr. Cohn

Second: Mr. Lewis

Yes: Ms. Evans, Ms. Trice, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Lewis, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin, Mr. Lefebvre, President Moore

Motion carried

RESOLUTIONS

10-029 Approving Council Meeting minutes of 02/03/10 and 02/17/10.

**Borough of Wilkinsburg
Council Legislative Meeting
March 17, 2010**

Moved: Mr. Lewis

Second: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson

Yes: Mr. Lewis, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin, Mr. Cohn, Ms. Trice, Ms. Evans,
Mr. Lefebvre, President Moore

Motion carried, with corrections as noted below.

Ms. Macklin stated that, as to the February 3, 2010 minutes, she also had requested the need for customer services and asked that her name be added in addition to President Moore's.

Regarding the February 17, 2010 minutes, Ms. Macklin asked that the minutes be corrected on Page 2 to reflect that the request was for an "apology" not a review of Police Chief.

10-030 Approving February Checks Issued in the amounts as follows:

Regular Distributions 02/01/10 – 02/28/10	\$ 987,202.94
Payroll disbursements	\$ 345,578.94
Voided Checks	\$ <u>(250.00)</u>

Total	\$1,332,531.88
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Moved: Mr. Cohn

Second: Ms. Evans

Yes: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, President Moore

No: Ms. Macklin, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Trice

Motion carried 7:3

Ms. Macklin stated that she will continue to vote "no" to approve checks until such time as checks are held until reviewed. Ms. Macklin also voted "no" to the specific check for \$5,000, as authorized by Mayor or Police Chief.

10-031 Authorizing the execution of the Section 902 Recycling Grant agreement.

Moved: Mr. Lewis

Second: Ms. Evans

Yes: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Cohn, Ms. Trice, Ms. Evans, Mr.
Lefebvre, Ms. Macklin, President Moore

Motion carried

10-032 Authorizing the award of the 2010 Street Paving Project to Victor Paving in the amount of \$111,042.00.

**Borough of Wilkinsburg
Council Legislative Meeting
March 17, 2010**

Moved: Mr. Cohn

Second: Ms. Evans

Yes: Mr. Cohn, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, Ms. Trice, President Moore

Motion carried

10-033 Adopting Rules of Conduct for Council meetings.

Moved: Ms. Evans

Second: Mr. Cohn

Yes: Ms. Trice, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Lewis, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, President Moore

Motion carried

10-034 Authorizing the Opening Day Parade for the Wilkinsburg Baseball Association to be held on May 1, 2010. The parade will commence at Ross Street and Wood Street, continue from Wood Street to Penn Ave., Penn Ave. to Swissvale Ave., Swissvale Ave. to Montier St., Montier St. to Laketon Rd. and Laketon Rd. to Turner Field.

Moved: Ms. Macklin

Second: Mr. Cohn

Yes: Mr. Cohn, Mr. Lewis, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, Ms. Trice, President Moore

Motion carried

10-035 Reappointing Mark Smith to the Zoning Hearing Board to serve a five-year Term commencing on February 1, 2010 and continuing through January 31, 2015.

Moved: Mr. Cohn, Mr. Lewis, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, Ms. Trice, President Moore

Motion carried

10-036 Appointing Vanessa McCarthy-Johnson to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board to serve a four-year term which shall continue through January 31, 2014.

Moved: Mr. Lewis

Second: Mr. Cohn

**Borough of Wilkinsburg
Council Legislative Meeting
March 17, 2010**

Yes: Mr. Lewis, Ms. Macklin, Mr. Cohn, Ms. Trice, Ms. Evans, Mr. Lefebvre,
President Moore

Abstain: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson abstained, stating that she did not choose to vote for
her own appointment.

Motion carried 8:1 Abstain

10-037 Supporting a Regional Storm Water Management Plan.

Moved: Mr. Lewis

Second: Mr. Cohn

Yes: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Cohn, Ms. Trice, Ms. Evans, Mr.
Lefebvre, Ms. Macklin, President Moore

Motion carried

10-038 Authorizing participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Moved: Ms. McCarthy-Johnson

Second: Mr. Cohn

Motion carried

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Macklin commented regarding the committees report read at last meeting. She indicated that the issue was not Council members cooperating with staff; it should be the other way around. Also, when Council members attend other committee meetings, they do have the right to participate.

NEW BUSINESS

Solicitor Storch announced that Patricia McGrail had been appointed Solicitor to the Pennsylvania State Boroughs Association.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, on motion **by** Mr. Lewis, second by Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM.

Eugenia Moore, Council President